

In every precinct throughout the United States, democrats who believe in democratic principles should organize for the fight that is now on. It is important that no man be chosen a delegate to a democratic convention who may not be depended upon to faithfully represent the will of the rank and file.

Organize for the Fight.

The Philadelphia Record says: "There is no mystery about the president's attitude—no psychological expert is needed to explain his mental operations. As a man he knows the tariff ought to be reduced; as a president and an aspirant after the nomination next year he is in the hands of the republican leaders."

Not a Great Mystery.

Republican politicians insist that the tariff be reformed by its friends and this is interpreted by the Albany Argus to mean "the beneficiaries of governmental partnership and special privilege." The Argus thinks that it is about as reasonable to let the tariff be reformed by its friends as it would be to appoint "a committee of foxes to devise plans for the relief and greater security of the geese."

By its Friends.

Referring to a speech recently delivered by Grover Cleveland, the New York Sun says: "The former president's remarks were what might have been expected from a man of his sound understanding and independence of character." If memory is not at fault, it was this same New York Sun that coined "the stuffed prophet," and applied the term to this man of "sound understanding and independence of character."

A Great Change.

The Johnstown Democrat says that "it is a curious fact that within a year of the day when Attorney General Knox declared the Sherman act inadequate, Mr. Knox himself disproved his claim in smashing the railroad merger with the Sherman law sledge." There is a large amount of other smashing to be done and the Sherman law sledge has not been weakened by its latest contact with a combine.

Sherman Law Sledge

The New York Commercial, a financial publication that does not take kindly to the prosecution of trusts and speaks approvingly of Judge Sandborn's modification of the merger decree, says that "the resistance made by the United States district attorney does not appear at this distance from St. Paul to have been as strenuous as it might have been. In fact, as reported in the dispatches, his argument in opposition seems to have been more perfunctory than otherwise."

Not Very Strenuous.

Deputy Collector of Customs Hood of Porto Rico has shown considerable activity in the prosecution of the Porto Rican smuggling cases and a Washington dispatch to the New York World says that "if Mr. Hood does not cease his activity in pushing charges finally disposed of, the deputy collector will soon find himself out of a government job. He may even be removed owing to disobedience of orders to date." The judge also took considerable interest in the prosecution of these cases. What manner of punishment will the administration provide for the court itself?

What About the Judge?

The Washington Post says that "if there be one man who more than any other citizen of the United States should be exempt from ridicule or any other than respectful treatment at the hands of the republican press, it is Grover Cleveland." The Post explains: "When the time comes for history to give a fair record of the memorable conflict that was waged and won between 1873 and 1897, the names of two champions of the cause of sound money will stand side by side, leading all the rest—John Sherman, the hero of resumption, and Grover Cleveland, the gold standard martyr." The Post is eminently correct in stating that the re-

Gold Standard Martyr.

publican editors or republican politicians are under deep obligations to Grover Cleveland; and yet when the time comes for the Post's history to be written, the historian will find it a bit difficult to explain how it happened that the gold standard martyr accepted on three occasions the nomination for the presidency at the hands of a party that never claimed to be a single gold standard party.

When democrats read in republican papers like the Kansas City Journal the confession that "with scarcely any modification," the reorganizers' presentation of the issues "could be adopted bodily into the republican national platform without doing violence to the views of that party," then democrats must realize the importance of protecting democracy's temple.

The Work for Democrats.

It is reported that the Oregon was so disabled by her recent experience with a Pacific typhoon that the expenditure of an immense sum of money will be necessary to make this famous vessel seaworthy. It is also estimated that it will require \$500,000 to repair the Iowa. The Philadelphia Record refers to these instances as "further proof of the costliness of the game in which battleships and cruisers are the pawns when Neptune takes a hand in the performance."

Those Costly Toys.

No time is to be lost in the work of organization of democratic clubs. Democrats who do not declare as true the falsehood that the democratic party has been wholly wrong and the republican party has been wholly right on public questions, will not enlist under the banner of those who would republicanize the democratic party. The Commoner will, upon application, furnish a form of constitution and membership blanks to all who contemplate the organization of democratic clubs. When these clubs are established they should be reported to The Commoner for the information and encouragement of others.

Go to Work at Once.

In The Commoner of April 17, a statement appeared relating to the winning of a prize by a negro student at Yale and it was said that this was the first time in the history of that university when a student of African ancestry had won a prize. A reader of The Commoner writes to say that "in 1887 a student of African ancestry, in other words, a negro, won a \$100 prize for delivering the best oration in his class. He was a member of the senior class of the Yale law school, a department of Yale university. His subject was the Fourteenth Amendment. His name has slipped from me, but is easily ascertained."

Yale Prize Winners.

The New York Commercial suggests: "Should the Northern Securities decision be approved by the United States supreme court some persons would not be a bit surprised to see congress speedily repeal the Sherman law. Possibly, the people may not want to exercise to the last limit a power that the constitution may give them in the way of restricting the conduct of business through legislation." Possibly the Commercial may be right; and yet it would seem that, suffering as they now are under trust imposition, the people may conclude, in order to protect themselves, to exercise to the last limit the power of prohibiting conspiracies in restraint of trade.

Want to Repeal it Now.

The Philadelphia Press is greatly shocked because of "the story of bribery and booting which comes from Missouri." This Pennsylvania paper says "all this is a discouraging revelation," but adds that "if it arouses the conscience of the people to any degree, reform will be demanded and will result in good to the republic." Would it not be well for the Philadelphia Press to sweep the dirt from its own doorstep? The exposure of dishonest work in Missouri has been promptly followed by vigorous prosecution on the part of the democratic law officers; but in Pennsylvania the rascals escaped punishment and if we are to believe the Philadelphia papers, dishonest meth-

Other Door Steps.

ods continue unchecked both in the municipal government of Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania state government.

In his Milwaukee speech Mr. Roosevelt said: "Not only is the (trust) legislation recently enacted effective, but in my judgment it was impracticable to attempt more. Nothing of value is to be expected from ceaseless agitation for radical and extreme legislation." If the legislation recently enacted was effective, how did it happen that hardly had the republican congress adjourned, before it was announced that the beef trust had been organized and we were told that in wealth and importance that trust was second only to the steel trust?

Was it Effective.

The Chicago Inter-Ocean, a republican paper, while condemning The Commoner for its criticism on the selection of Mr. Gorman as leader of the democrats, says: "Republicans do not object to Mr. Gorman as leader of the democratic party in the senate. Their complaint is that a good many republican senators seem to have the impression that Mr. Gorman is not only the leader of the democrats in the senate, but of the republicans." Practically there is not much difference between the leadership of Mr. Gorman and that of Mr. Aldrich. It is not at all likely that even though Mr. Gorman should become the leader of the republicans as well as of the democrats in the senate, he would make any more serious assault upon special interests than is made under the leadership of the senator from Rhode Island.

Gorman and Aldrich.

The Philadelphia North American is authority for the statement that J. Pierpont Morgan first called up President Roosevelt by long distance telephone and bitterly took Mr. Roosevelt to task for his proceedings in the Northern Securities case. It is related that subsequently Mr. Morgan took a special train for Washington and that in the presence of the president he assumed "a very arrogant air." The North American says that while Mr. Roosevelt was incensed at the way he was treated by this trust magnate it is understood that he controlled his temper. It will occur to a great many people that if a touch of the strenuous life were ever justifiable, it would have been on an occasion when the greatest trust organizer the world has ever known undertook to lecture the president of the United States because of the effort to enforce the anti-trust law in one instance.

Morgan Was Arrogant.

SPEAKING OF MARPLOTS

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those who seek to republicanize the democratic party, he could not carry a dozen men into the opposition camp. He would simply forfeit the confidence and excite the contempt of those who have supported him. The contest between democracy on the one side and plutocracy on the other, is still on, and the result of that contest means much for weal or woe to the American people. The democratic party ought to be kept democratic in order that it may be an efficient instrument in the hands of the people for the protection of the people's rights. Those who believe in the Kansas City platform are not ashamed of the part that they have played, and they do not intend to surrender the control of the party into the hands of those who have openly antagonized those principles and who boast of their intention, if successful, to take the party back to the position which it occupied under Mr. Cleveland's administration. All that the friends of the Kansas City platform ask is that all questions be submitted to the voters in order that the policy may be determined by the voters, and to this end they propose to organize and marshal their forces at the primaries. They know by bitter experience that they have powerful and cunning enemies to meet—enemies who are not only in close and constant communication with the monopolists in trade and finance, but who will employ republican methods of coercion, deception and corruption wherever those methods can be employed. No amount of abuse or villification will deter the friends of the Kansas City platform, for they have an interest in the preservation of their party's virtue and in the protection of their country from the assaults of predatory wealth.